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1905), issued for 137 casks of goatskins shipped to New York per steamship *Wartburg* on February 14, 1905. The skins had been soaked in brine solution and packed in water-tight casks. I do not know whether this method has been tested bacteriologically, but it seemed to the consul that it ought to be satisfactory. He tells me that similarly packed skins have been sent before and have been accepted in America. I should be glad of instructions if the method is deficient.

Sanitary certificate No. 76 (accompanying consular invoice No. 32 of 1905), issued on February 17, 1905, for 2,000 baskets of onions shipped to Manila per steamship *Ischia*.

Sanitary certificate No. 77 (accompanying consular invoice No. 33 of 1905), issued on February 17, 1905, for 2,000 baskets of onions. Shipped as above. The onions were all grown up country in districts free from cholera.

Report from Calcutta—Cholera and plague mortality—Plague mortality in India, 1901–1905.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports February 16, as follows; There were no transactions at this port during the week ended February 11, 1905.

During the week ended February 11, 1905, there were 37 deaths from cholera, and 106 deaths from plague in Calcutta.

In Bengal during the week ended February 4, 1905, there were 5,921 cases of and 5,234 deaths from plague, and in India 40,812 cases and 36,117 deaths, same period.

Plague mortality in India, 1901–1905.

I submit the following, which I have transcribed from the Pioneer:

“The way in which the figures of plague mortality are mounting every week over any previous records shows what the country must look to endure before the disease reaches its accustomed climax in April or early May. Not only is the accession in mortality as the season advances as steady as in previous years, but the total death rate is once more moving on a level above that of the year preceding. The following figures, giving the mortality for the week covering January 31 for the last five years, show how regular is the advance of the disease, taking India as a whole from winter to winter:

1901	3, 415
1902	12, 192
1903	24, 500
1904	23, 203
1905	33, 087

“The one gleam of comfort about these dismal weekly returns is that there seems at least to be some sign of remission on the part of the disease in Bombay. The figures for Bombay, city and district, on the same date of the last five years stand thus:

1901	4, 622
1902	4, 200
1903	12, 200
1904	6, 670
1905	3, 500

“The last figure, supposing it represents the average rate of a twelve-month, would mean a mortality of 182,000 a year; but the latest actual

yearly mortality upon record (that for the official year ending with last March) is 281,269 deaths. The present rate would, therefore, represent a gain of 100,000, if maintained. More than that, the last week in January is a period in upper India when plague is very greatly above the annual mean level.

* * * * *

“It was full time that the plague should show symptoms of relenting in Bombay. We have already mentioned that the deaths in 1903-4 came to the fearful total of 281,269. The figure represents a death rate of nearly $15\frac{1}{2}$ per mille per annum on the whole population of the Presidency. In other words, the death rate from plague alone in Bombay is not short of the death rate from all causes combined in a healthy English town. And when we consider that this result has come about over a vast province embracing great differences of population, soil, and climate, of which large portions must have remained slightly infected or uninfected, one gets some idea of what such a figure means to the localities that have borne the brunt of the epidemic. One death in every 3 that occurred during the year was due to plague. Owing to plague, the total death rate reached the ominous figure of 43.91 per thousand. Thanks to the plague, the deaths over the whole Presidency largely outnumbered the births. The births were only 576,949, the deaths 811,525, leaving the Presidency with a population diminished in the course of the year in round numbers by a quarter of a million souls. Admitting that the returns are probably very inexact, there is no reason to suppose that the deaths are more fully reported than the births, or that more general deaths are ascribed to plague than plague deaths to general causes. Looked at with reservations, the figures tell a terrible story coming at the end of seven previous years of affliction, and the least indication that the disease is at last on its descending path is a sign to be hailed with thankfulness.”

ITALY.

Report from Naples—Inspection of vessels—Infectious diseases in Italy—Plague and cholera in various countries—Quarantine regulations—History of plague case on steamship Creve Hall at Liverpool from Rangoon—Mortality in great cities—Hygienic exhibition at Milan, 1906.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Eager reports, February 27, as follows:

During the week ended February 25, 1905, the following ships were inspected at Naples, Messina, and Palermo:

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of large baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.	Number of steerage passengers recommended for rejection.
Feb. 21	Buenos Ayres	New York	784	40	900	15
21	Napolitan Prince	do	620	35	950	13
22	Algeria	do	1,082	50	1,350	6
22	Romanic	Boston	1,366	110	1,750	17
23	Neustria	New York	916	80	1,250	8
23	Nord America	do	1,029	30	1,380	12
24	Königin Luise	do	1,437	70	1,850	18
25	Vincenzo Florio	do	553	25	750	23